

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Purpose of this Notice: The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Burke-Gilman Trail Redevelopment Project is being released for public review and comment. A public hearing will be conducted where the public may comment on the Draft EIS. A thirty (30) day comment period for interested citizens and agencies will begin on November 1, 2007 and end on December 3, 2007.

Location of Project: The King County Facilities Management Division proposes to redevelop an approximately two-mile stretch of the Burke-Gilman Trail along the northwest shore of Lake Washington. The trail would be redeveloped from NE 145th Street to Log Boom Park within the City of Lake Forest Park.

Purpose of the EIS: As the lead agency for the proposed project, King County Facilities Management Division has prepared a Draft EIS to meet the requirements of Washington's State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The purpose of the Draft EIS is to evaluate the potential impacts of the project alternatives that were identified as a result of the initial EIS scoping and alternatives selection process. Public and agency comments received during the Draft EIS comment period will be considered in preparation of the Final EIS.

Project Description: The proposed project will redevelop an approximately two-mile stretch of the Burke-Gilman Trail, a multi-use trail along the northwest shore of Lake Washington. A multi-use trail is synonymous with a "shared use path or trail" as defined by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). It is also defined as a "multiple-purpose trail" in the *King County Regional Trails Plan* and as a "Class 1 bikeway" in the Washington State Department of Transportation *Facilities for Non-Motorized Transportation*.

This Draft EIS evaluates alternatives for redeveloping the existing trail segment, including two action alternatives and the No Action Alternative. Under the Redevelopment Alternative (King County's Preferred Alternative), the trail would be reconstructed and widened, drainage improved, and new trail amenities provided. The Rebuild Alternative includes reconstructing the trail in-kind. Under both the Redevelopment and Rebuild Alternatives, traffic controls and signage would be redesigned and sight distance improved at intersections and driveway crossings, in accordance with current standards and policies.

The project is needed to address safety and ease of use issues along the trail. This need is driven by the following factors: 1) need to address trail surface irregularities; 2) need to meet minimum trail standards; 3) need to create uniformity along the trail; 4) need to

accommodate an increasing number of trail users; and 5) need to accommodate the range of users in a safe manner.

The Draft EIS outlines each of the three proposed project alternatives' impacts and benefits to a number of environmental considerations, including: earth, surface water resources, wetlands, vegetation, wildlife, and fish resources; land use and shorelines; recreation; aesthetics and visual quality; utilities and public services; noise; historic, cultural, and archaeological resources; transportation; and socioeconomic resources.

Public Hearing: The Public Hearing will be held on November 13, 2007 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at:

**Shorecrest High School, Cafeteria
15343 25th Avenue NE
Shoreline, Washington**

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow participants to offer oral comments on the Draft EIS. The meeting site for the public hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring reasonable accommodation may request written materials in alternative formats, sign language, interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodations by calling (206) 684-1154 (voice) or TTY Relay: 711.

Public Comment Period: All comments received prior to midnight, December 3, 2007 will be reviewed by the Burke-Gilman Trail Redevelopment Project Team and included in the formal comment record for consideration in the Final EIS. Written comments may be sent to Maggie Brown, King County Facilities Management Division, King Street Center, 201 South Jackson Street, #700, Seattle, WA 98104 or sent via e-mail to fmd.sepacomments@kingcounty.gov. If you have any questions about this proposal, or about the Draft EIS, please contact Maggie Brown at (206) 263-7286.

Where documents are available: The Draft EIS will be available for review at the following locations:

Seattle Public Library, Lake City Branch – 12501 28th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA
Lake Forest Park Public Library – 17171 Bothell Way N.E., Lake Forest Park, WA
Kenmore Library – 18138 73rd N.E., Kenmore, WA
Bothell Regional Library – 18215 98th Ave. N.E., Bothell, WA
Shoreline Library – 345 N.E. 175th, Shoreline, WA

Copies of the Draft EIS and Technical Appendices are available for review at the King County Facilities Management Division, King County Administration Building, Room 320, 500 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104.

Printed copies of the Draft EIS can be purchased from Olympic Reprographics for the cost of reproduction. Documents can be obtained by contacting Robert Stiteler at (206) 373-7043. Anticipated costs are listed below:

Volume 1 \$20

Volume 2 Plan Sheets \$15

CD-ROMs of the Draft EIS and Technical Appendices are also available at the reproduction cost of \$1.50 per CD-ROM (Volumes 1, 2, 3, and Discipline Reports). Individuals can contact Cat Hicks, King County Department of Executive Services at (206) 296-1822.

In addition, you may download project documents and get general project information at the project website: <http://www.metrokc.gov/facilities/burkegilmantrail/>

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